

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TEL AV 00081 051536Z

45

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 INT-05 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /075 W

----- 109704

R 051400Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9595

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 0081

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, IS

SUBJECT: GENERAL STRIKE IN EILAT OVER CLOSING OF COPPER MINE

REF: TEL AVIV A-182 DATED OCT 15, 1975

1. JANUARY 4 MINISTERIAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE DECIDED TO CLOSE TIMNA COPPER MINE AND CEMENT MILL IN EILAT. IN LIGHT OF TIMNA'S DEFICIT, ESTIMATED AT IL 250 MILLION OVER NEXT THREE YEARS, POSSIBILITY OF SHUTDOWN HAD BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR SOME TIME (REF) AND ANNOUNCEMENT WAS NO GREAT SURPRISE.

2. MINE AND CEMENT MILL EMPLOY 700 WORKERS AND ARE MAJOR JOB SOURCE IN EILAT. IN REACTION TO DECISION WORKERS CALLED GENERAL STRIKE JANUARY 5, SHUTTING DOWN PORT, AIRPORT AND OIL PIPELINE.

3. BOTH LABOR MINISTER BARAM AND HISTRADRUT SEC GENERAL MESHEL OPPOSED CLOSEDOWN, BUT MINISTERS FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY PREVAILED IN VIEW OF SERIOUS BUDGETARY PROBLEMS MILITATING AGAINST CONTINUING LARGE SUBSIDIES TO COMPANY. LATTER STRESSED THAT MAJORITY OF REDUNDANT EILAT WORKERS COULD FIND EMPLOYMENT IN AREA TOURIST DEVELOPMENT WHICH IS TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TEL AV 00081 051536Z

BE GREATLY EXPANDED. MOREOVER, LABOR MINISTER SOUGHT

TO ASSURE WORKERS THAT ALTERNATE EMPLOYMENT WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR ALL THOSE WHO WANTED IT. HOWEVER, PROBLEMS OF RELOCATION AND PRESENT ATMOSPHERE OF ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY MAKE WORKERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS SKEPTICAL.

4. PRIME MINISTER RABIN IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH MAYOR OF EILAT AND REPRESENTATIVE OF HISTADRUT AND MINE MANAGEMENT ON JANUARY 5 TO DISCUSS COMPENSATION, IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION, ALTERNATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF EILAT, AND OTHER WAYS OF MINIMIZING IMPACT ON COMMUNITY.
DUNNIGAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COPPER, MINING INDUSTRY, CLOSURE OF OFFICES, LABOR STRIKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TELAV00081
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760002-0896
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760185/aaaacxvy.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TEL AVIV A-182
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <25 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GENERAL STRIKE IN EILAT OVER CLOSING OF COPPER MINE
TAGS: ELAB, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006